



January 2016
Volume 8 Issue 1

Councilmember
Todd Gloria proudly
represents

Balboa Park

Bankers Hill/Park West

Downtown

Golden Hill

Hillcrest

Midletown

Mission Hills

Normal Heights

North Park

Old Town

South Park

University Heights

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San Diego Adopts Aggressive Climate Action Plan

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

One of my proudest moments since 2008 was the City Council's unanimous approval of the Climate Action Plan on December 15, which was developed at my direction starting in 2013. By adopting the Plan, the City committed to using 100% clean energy by 2035 and several other meaningful and measurable goals.

Less than two years ago, I laid out a vision that San Diego would be a global leader in addressing the challenge of climate change. The cornerstone of our environmental health strategy is the Climate Action Plan we adopted, which will protect public health and put us on a path to a clean energy future with safe, vibrant and livable neighborhoods.

During my time as Interim Mayor, I prioritized the development of the Climate Action Plan and involved stakeholders from the environmental, technology, and business communities to ensure it would achieve measurable results.

With five key strategies, the Climate Action Plan comprehensively addresses major environmental factors like Energy and Water Conservation, Local Clean Energy Generation, Waste Reduction, Improved Transportation and Climate Resiliency.

A highlight of the Plan is the commitment to use 100% clean energy, making San Diego the largest U.S. city to adopt such a standard. This is a key strategy to help meet the Plan's goal of cutting citywide carbon pollution by 50% by 2035. The City's zero waste initiative, pledge to increase commutes via transit and active transportation, and plan to create a 35% tree canopy will also assist in achieving demonstrable benefits for residents, businesses, the environment, and neighborhoods.

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Councilmember Gloria Named Budget Chair for 6th Year

On December 14, Councilmember Todd Gloria was confirmed as the Chair of the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee for the sixth consecutive year.

"2016 is my final year serving on the San Diego City Council, and I look forward to again leading the Budget Committee," said Councilmember Gloria. "I'm proud of the role I've played encouraging earlier and active City Council involvement in the development of each year's budget. As reflected in the Audit of the City's Financial Condition, San Diego is in a strong financial position, and we'll make more progress on that front in the coming year."

On the same day, the City Council was briefed on the Performance Audit of the City's Financial Condition, which determined that San Diego's financial condition between Fiscal Year 2005 and Fiscal Year 2014 scored among the best compared to six cities of similar population size.

"The San Diego City Council, Independent Budget Analyst, and City employees have made responsible financial decisions over the last several years, and this audit validates our hard work," said Councilmember Gloria. "Maintaining practices that make our City more resilient to financial market cycles will help ensure we can continue to provide critical public services should we experience another downturn."

The Budget Committee 2015 Year End Report will be presented to the City Council on January 19.

2016 Will Be a Productive Year

2016 promises to be a productive year for Councilmember Todd Gloria, and a positive one for District Three.

As Councilmember Gloria continues to lead the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee and the Regional Continuum of Care Council (RCCC) in his final year on the San Diego City Council, smart financial decisions and addressing homelessness will remain priorities. A key financial step will occur this month, when the Budget Committee starts the 2017 City budget process and the public is encouraged to weigh in. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 27 at 9:00 a.m. at the City Administration Building.

The RCCC will make headway ending veteran homelessness by solidifying partnerships with the 25 Cities Initiative and by working with landlords to house veterans.

In addition to connecting homeless individuals with needed shelter and services, Councilmember Gloria will spend time in 2016 working to ensure more San Diegans can avoid homelessness through an increased minimum wage. San Diegans will have the opportunity to vote in June on Councilmember Gloria's sensible minimum wage increase which will allow more people to pay for necessities like rent, food, and utilities. Further, since all people need water and energy, Councilmember Gloria will spearhead development of a water rate assistance fund for low income San Diegans this year, as well as energy efficiency benchmarking for commercial buildings.

Progress will occur on many neighborhood projects in 2016 as well. Slated for completion this year are renovations at the Balboa Park Chess Club, dog park improvements at Ward Canyon Park, and joint use park upgrades at McKinley Elementary School. Work will commence on the construction of the new Mission Hills-Hillcrest Library and the retrofit of the Georgia Street Bridge.

Councilmember Gloria aims to significantly advance the North Park Mini Park, Uptown Bike Corridor Improvements, new Fire Station 5, and the University Avenue Mobility Project before his tenure concludes as well.

City of San Diego Expands Support for Small Businesses

Councilmember Todd Gloria on December 8 announced that the City of San Diego's Storefront Improvement Program will soon be available to more small businesses, thanks to changes approved by the City Council. The Storefront Improvement Program revitalizes building facades visible to customers, neighboring merchants, and residents. The City of San Diego provides design assistance and financial incentives to small business owners who wish to make a creative change to their storefronts.

After celebrating several successful improvements achieved through the program in District Three, Councilmember Gloria proposed changes in April to ensure more businesses could take advantage of the opportunity.

"Many businesses in my district have successfully utilized this program, which has not only added to the character of the streetscapes, but also brings new investment into the community," said Councilmember Gloria. "The changes approved will help make ensure the Storefront Improvement Program is more fully utilized."

One revision increases the eligibility threshold to enable small businesses with up to 25 employees to participate. The policy previously limited eligibility to businesses with 12 or fewer employees. Other changes are designed to reduce confusion about ineligible businesses and to eliminate the public art incentive category since it has been underutilized and the City has other mechanisms to encourage public art. Finally, the revisions include another incentive category to rebate a portion of project costs related to permitting, which should encourage more projects to follow through to completion.

"I am grateful to the Economic Development Department staff for developing these sensible changes that will help fuel greater investment in neighborhoods throughout our City," said Councilmember Gloria.

To learn more about the Storefront Improvement Program, visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/economic-development/business/starting/improvement.shtml>.



Kafe Sobaka on Broadway in Golden Hill used a grant of \$4,173 to create sidewalk seating.

Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

Strengthening Public Safety

- Streetlights were repaired in the 2400, 2700, and 2800 blocks of University Avenue.
- Streetlights were also repaired at the intersections of 30th Street at Gunn, 30th Street at Landis, and in the 3800 block of First Avenue.
- A traffic light was repaired at the intersection of University Avenue and Illinois Street.
- Continental crosswalks were approved for the intersection of Fern and Grape Streets and will be installed soon.

Infrastructure Investment

- As part of the North Park Main Street Red Sidewalks Replacement Project, sidewalks will be replaced on the north side of University Avenue between Granada Avenue and Ohio Street starting around January 11 and continuing until March, pending delays due to weather.
- Street repairs were completed on the 3500 block of 33rd Street.
- The sidewalk on the 3700 block of Utah Street was repaired.

- A missing tile was replaced on the sidewalk in the 300 block of Market Street.
- A pothole created by trench work along Ash Street at 8th Avenue was repaired.
- A leaking water meter was repaired and a large pool of water was cleared from the 4500 block of Hawley.

Community Character

- The Todd Squad worked with City staff to wrap newly installed fire hydrants on Washington Street to ensure parking spaces were maintained until the hydrants were activated.
- Graffiti was removed from the 3100 and 3500 blocks of 30th Street.
- Trash was removed and cleaning was performed at the Georgia Street Bridge.
- Play structures were repaired at Montclair Park.
- A homeless encampment and debris were cleared from Allen Canyon in Mission Hills.

Meet the Todd Squad: Some Changes for 2016

Councilmember Todd Gloria works tirelessly to serve the people of District Three, and the Todd Squad is proudly dedicated to helping achieve that goal every day. A few changes have been made to the Todd Squad which will help ensure continued top quality service.



Anthony Bernal is the Director of Business and Community Projects. He assists Councilmember Gloria in all Downtown neighborhoods including East Village and Little Italy.



In addition to continuing his impressive work in North Park, **Adrian Granda** will add Golden Hill to his community representation duties in 2016.



With a wealth of experience throughout District Three, **Stephen Hill** now assists people in Balboa Park, Burlingame, and Old Town.



Neighbors in University Heights will now be assisted by **Adriana Martinez**, who also continues her work in Bankers Hill, Hillcrest, Mission Hills, and Normal Heights.



Nick Serrano will represent Councilmember Gloria in South Park.

Sandbags Available for Storms



With the El Nino winter upon San Diego, the decision has been made to expand the availability of empty sandbags to every fire station and select

lifeguard stations. In addition, the Fire-Rescue Department increased its reserve of empty sandbags to restock these facilities.

If you need sandbags to help protect your property from flooding and other storm damage, visit your local fire station. For a complete list, visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/fire/about/firestations/index.shtml>

Keep in mind that it is illegal to remove sand from San Diego beaches for this use, so plan to fill them elsewhere.

For more El Nino storm preparedness tips, please visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/el-nino/>.

City Council Unanimously Approves Additional Electoral Reforms

On December 8, 2015, San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria announced the City Council's bipartisan approval of his referendum process reforms. The measures amend three sections of the Municipal Code to bring them in line with current state law and make referendum, initiative, and recall processes more consistent. Also approved was a requirement for petition circulators to provide top donor information to voters at the time they are asked to sign a petition, complementing changes proposed by Councilmember Gloria and approved by the City Council in October.

"The City Council took another critical step to improve consistency in our laws and to strengthen voter confidence in the initiative and referendum processes," said Councilmember Gloria. "Referenda and initiatives are key parts of a democratic government, and the changes approved today help ensure the processes are not hijacked further by anonymous corporate special interests."

Councilmember Gloria has strongly advocated for reforms to the referendum and initiative processes since the number of such efforts in recent years in San Diego has outpaced those in other major California cities, and most are organized and funded by large out of town private companies.

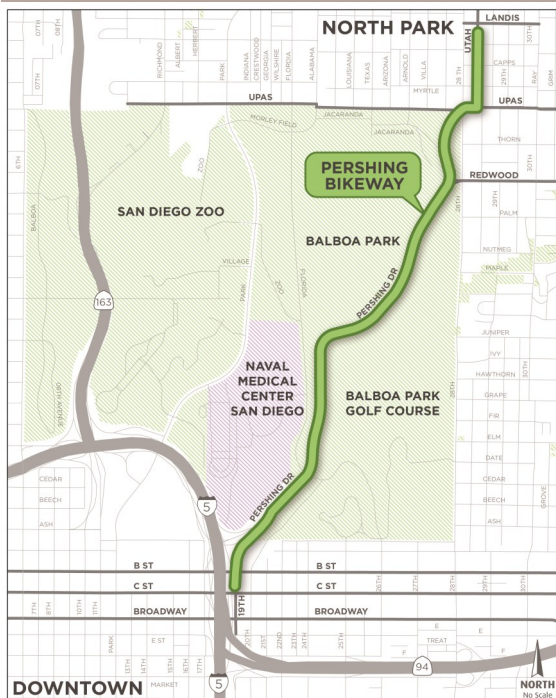
In 2014, powerful organizations representing national hoteliers and fast food franchises masqueraded as the "Small Business Coalition" to fight the minimum wage increase approved by the City Council. They deceived enough San Diegans to sign a petition that the measure's implementation was put on hold and will appear on the June 2016 ballot. Several hundred San Diegans withdrew their signatures upon learning the true nature of the petition was to oppose the minimum wage increase. Had the Small Business Coalition been required to disclose its funders during the signature gathering period instead of months later, many San Diegans might not have signed the petitions.

In October, the City Council unanimously approved Councilmember Gloria's initial reform measures, which included the filing of additional campaign statements with the City Clerk during the signature gathering period to increase transparency and provide more timely information on campaign funders.

With the changed approved, initiative and referendum petitions will now also be required to include the following language: "Information regarding persons and entities financing this petition shall be made available to anyone who is asked to sign this petition. You have the right to ask."

Councilmember Gloria continues to work with California legislators to develop of additional reforms at the state level.

Learn More About New Bike Projects



SANDAG Robinson Bikeway Workshop

Thursday, January 14, 6:00—8:00 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church, 3967 Park Boulevard

The Robinson Bikeway will run along Robinson Avenue between Park Boulevard and Alabama Street. Proposed features include an elevated path to bridge Florida Canyon between Florida and Alabama Streets, buffered bike lanes, crosswalks, and traffic calming elements. The project is one of six segments planned as part of the North Park—Mid-City Bikeways, which will add approximately 13 miles of bike boulevards and protected bikeways to connect North Park and Mid-City neighborhoods.

More info: KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/RobinsonBikeway.

SANDAG Pershing Bikeway Open House

Wednesday, January 20, 6:00—8:00 p.m.

Balboa Park Golf Course Great Room, 2600 Golf Course Drive

The Pershing Bikeway, pictured left, is a 2.6 mile bikeway that will improve connections through Balboa Park and between North Park and Downtown San Diego. Proposed project features may include wide buffered bike lanes and protected bikeways to make it more pleasant for people who bike and walk.

More info: KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/PershingBikeway

Help Keep Downtown Clean & Safe: Get Involved in 2016

Clean & Safe, a program of the Downtown San Diego Partnership, welcomes involvement and input as it develops its work plan for 2016. Six neighborhood meetings are scheduled, and public participation is encouraged so Downtown continues to benefit from Clean & Safe projects including power washing, sticker and graffiti removal, doggy bag stations, homeless outreach, public safety and security patrols, directions and visitor assistance, lights in trees, landscaping and beautification, hanging baskets, corner planters, and placemaking. For more information, call 619-234-8900 or email info@improvedtsd.org.

January 11, 5:00—6:00 p.m.
Embassy Suites, Topeka Room
601 Pacific Highway

January 13, 5:30—6:30 p.m.
1 Columbia Place, Room 300
401 West A Street

January 19, 3:00—4:00 p.m.
Marriott Gaslamp Quarter
Presidio C Room, 8th floor, 660 K Street

January 12, 5:30—6:30 p.m.
Co-Merge
330 A Street

January 14, 5:30—6:30 p.m.
Moniker Warehouse
705 16th Street

January 19, 6:00—7:00 p.m.
The Mills House
1642 7th Avenue

McKinley Elementary Joint Use Park Update

The long awaited joint use park at McKinley Elementary is targeted for completion by the end of 2016 according to the latest update from the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD).

It has been a little over a year since the General Development Plan for the park was approved by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board. Councilmember Todd Gloria was happy to work with SDUSD, McKinley parents, and surrounding residents on a park design that includes amenities such as a natural grass field and shade trees. Portions of current park space outside the fenced fields were also maintained at the request of local residents.

Since then, SDUSD staff have been working to finalize design and construction drawings and get the necessary approvals from the Division of State Architect's office (DSA). SDUSD staff expect DSA approval of plans for the McKinley project in the coming weeks. The next step will be to begin the public bid process. Contract award is expected in March of 2016 with construction beginning shortly thereafter.

Councilmember Gloria will release additional information as it becomes available.

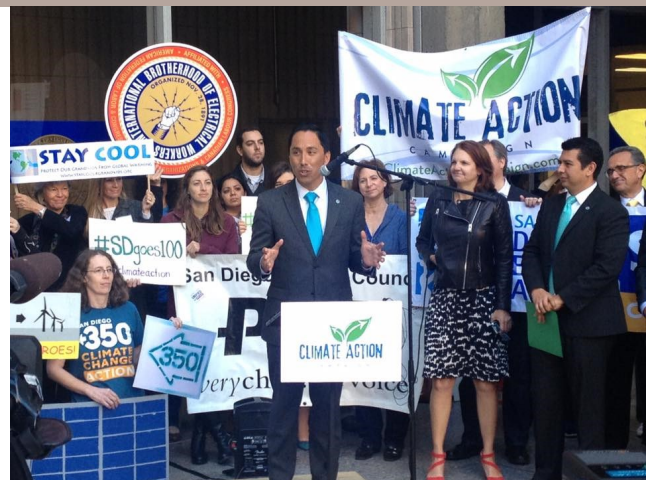
Climate Action Plan *(continued from page 1)*

San Diego's Climate Action Plan is more than a target; it is an implementable plan that will help preserve and protect our local natural resources and our global community. Global climate change has been worsened by human action, and it is our responsibility as humans to address it through positive action. I am grateful to Mayor Kevin Faulconer for supporting this vision and its enactment.

The Climate Action Plan will also provide ancillary benefits to the City of San Diego and its residents. It has been applauded for furthering San Diego's leadership in clean technology industries, such as renewable energy, information technology, manufacturing, and waste management while fostering programs to create well-paying jobs.

The Plan calls for the implementation of the City's General Plan concept of walkable and pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods with a mixture of uses that revitalize existing neighborhoods while retaining their individual character. It would promote the use of transit and improve accessibility for vulnerable groups, including the elderly, children, and the economically disadvantaged.

The Plan also includes details on its implementation and monitoring, including a phased approach to accomplishing the actions set forth. It will include annual monitoring to ensure the City is meeting its goals and can adjust to new technology or legislation.



Tracking Todd



1. Todd participated in the traditional North Park Toyland Parade.
2. Before spending time with his family, Todd joined Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins, Nicole Murray Ramirez, and Jennifer LeSar to serve the annual Scott Carlson Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner.
3. Todd served as judge at the SoNo Fest and Chili Cook Off. Estimates for 2015 are that 18,000 people attended, and the foundation received a net donation of more than \$55,000, a new record!
4. Todd visited the Gary and Mary West Senior Wellness Center and helped



serve delicious cuisine from Bencotto and Monello restaurants in Little Italy.



Councilmember Todd Gloria serves on the following:

Chair, Budget and Government Efficiency Committee
 Member, Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee
 Member, Environment Committee
 Member, Smart Growth and Land Use Committee
 Chair, San Diego Regional Continuum of Care Governance Board

Chair Pro Tem, Metropolitan Transit System Board
 Member, San Diego Association of Governments Board
 Chair, SANDAG Transportation Committee
 Member, SANDAG Executive Committee
 Liaison, Civic San Diego

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